Increase of LPCD norms

2431. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government convened a meeting of all Chief Ministers on the 4th and 5th July, 1996 at New Delhi; and it was principally agreed to increase the LPCD norms from 40 LPCD to 55 LPCD and allow 30 per cent private house connections in Maharashtra;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps regarding initiation of that agreed proposal uptill;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government have any new plan of drinking water supply programme in Maharashtra to mitigate the grievances of the people?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) The Chief Ministers' Conference held on 4-5th July, 1996 had recommended that the present norm of 40 lpcd be revised to 55 lpcd.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) It is proposed to implemented the above recommendation, after providing safe drinking water facilities as per the existing norm to all the 'Not Covered' and 'Partially Covered' habitations.

(e) No, Sir.

Centrally sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme

2432. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress of the centrally sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated by Government for this programme during the above period, State-wise;

(c) whether Government have cleared the funds allocated for this programme in the Maharashtra Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what is Government's view regarding Maharashtra Government's appeal to increase cost limit of individual latrine?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) The information is given in the enclosed Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The information is given in the enclosed Statement-II (*See* below)

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Allocation of Rs. 821.82 lakh has been made for Maharashtra during 1997-98 out of which Rs. 410.91 lakh has been released as first instalment.

(e) The State Governments have been permitted to meet the difference between the increasd cost and the existing cost limit of Rs. 2500/- per sanitary latrine under the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme from the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme funds.